

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release:

Tuesday, August 04, 2015

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COME SEE THE PLANS TO REPLACE HIGHWAY 11 BRIDGE APALACHEE RIVER

Bethlehem, Ga. – The Georgia Department of Transportation wants to share the plans to replace the State Route 11 Bridge over the Apalachee River, 7.5 miles north of Monroe. Georgia DOT is hosting a public information open house meeting on the proposed changes.

The Open House is scheduled from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, August 13 at Bethlehem City Hall located at 750 Manger Avenue in Bethlehem. Georgia DOT Engineers and consultants will be available to discuss the proposal. There will not be a formal presentation during the open house.

The existing bridge was built in 1942 and does not meet current design standards. It is 200 feet long and 24 feet wide. The new bridge will be 280 feet long and 40 feet wide, providing an area for pedestrians to walk across the bridge and an area to move a vehicle out of traffic if needed.

Residents can record their comments at the open house. Written statements can be submitted until August 23 to:

Ms. Hiral Patel, P.E.

State Environmental Administrator

Georgia Department of Transportation

600 West Peachtree Street, NW – 16th Floor

Atlanta, Georgia 30308

After the open house, you can view the display of the project at the Georgia DOT Athens Area Office located at 450 Old Hull Road in Athens or at the Georgia DOT District Office located at 2205 Athens Highway in Gainesville . Project information will also be available after the Open House Meeting on the Georgia DOT website

<http://www.dot.ga.gov/PS/Public/PublicOutreach>.

DriveAlert ArriveAlive calls attention to an alarming increase in roadway fatalities across Georgia, many resulting from preventable crashes and distracted driving. ***DriveAlert ArriveAlive*** implores motorists to buckle up; stay off the phone and no texting; and drive alert. Visit www.dot.ga.gov/DS/SafetyOperation/DAAA. #ArriveAliveGA For more information about Georgia DOT, visit www.dot.ga.gov or on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/GDOTNE) (<https://www.facebook.com/GDOTNE>) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/GDOTNE) (<https://twitter.com/GDOTNE>).

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Photo of the Highway 11 Bridge that will be replaced over the Apalachee River built in 1942.